

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

## Why Focus on the Bay-Delta

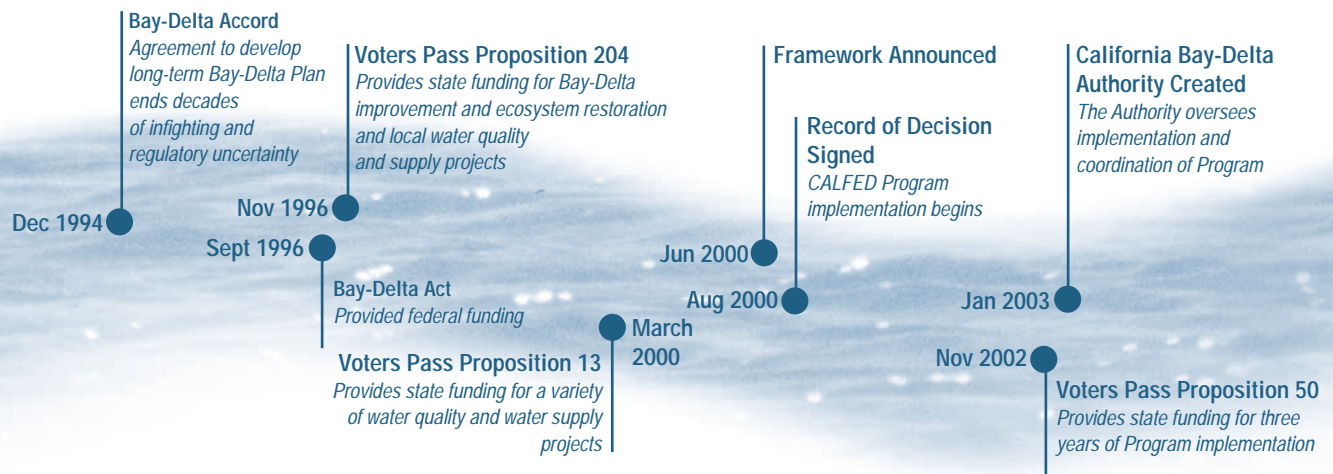
The Bay-Delta is one of California's unique and valuable resources. The Bay-Delta system provides drinking water for 22 million people and is an integral part of California's water system. It supports California's trillion dollar economy, including its \$28 billion agricultural industry. Its levees protect farms, homes and infrastructure. It is the largest estuary on the West Coast and is home to 750 plant and animal species. The Bay-Delta supports 80 percent of the state's commercial salmon fisheries.

The Bay-Delta has been in decline for decades. Growth and development in California have increased demands on the Bay-Delta for water supply. At the same time, the health of the Bay-Delta ecosystem has deteriorated and populations of important fish species are at risk. The CALFED agencies working with local partners are implementing hundreds of projects to improve the quality and reliability of the Bay-Delta system. As a result, conflict in the Delta has been reduced. Water supplies are becoming more reliable, water quality issues are gaining the attention they deserve, and the Bay-Delta environment is showing some favorable responses.

## The CALFED Bay-Delta Program

In August 2000, the CALFED Bay-Delta Program agencies issued a Programmatic Record of Decision (ROD) that set forth a 30-year plan to address ecosystem health and water supply reliability problems in the Bay-Delta. The document laid out specific actions and investments to meet Program goals and described a strategy for implementing the Plan. The Program addresses four interrelated, interdependent resource management objectives concurrently:

## California Bay-Delta Program Timeline



Water Supply Reliability  
Water Quality  
Ecosystem Restoration  
Levee System Integrity

The Program's four objectives are further addressed through 11 major program elements as a way of sustaining the CALFED Plan's balanced and comprehensive approach. The following is a summary of the major components of the CALFED Plan:

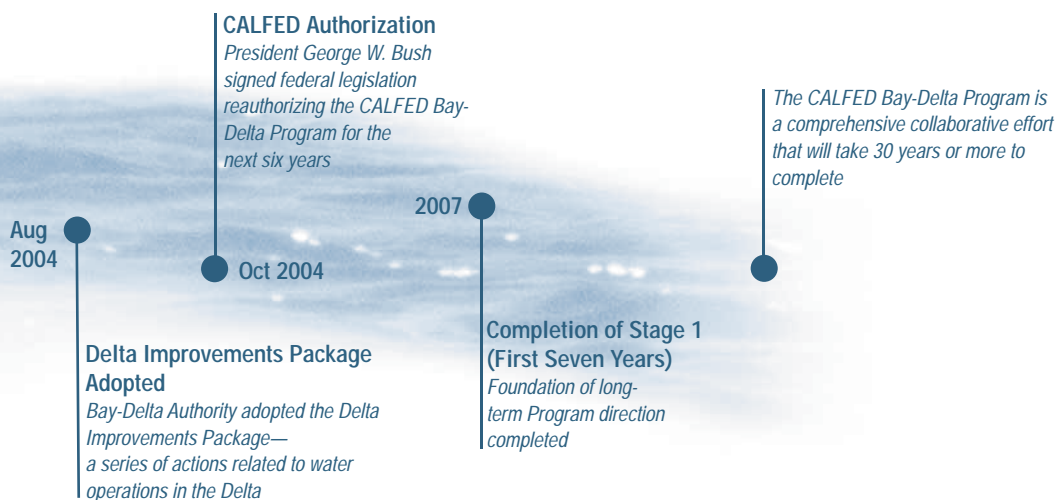
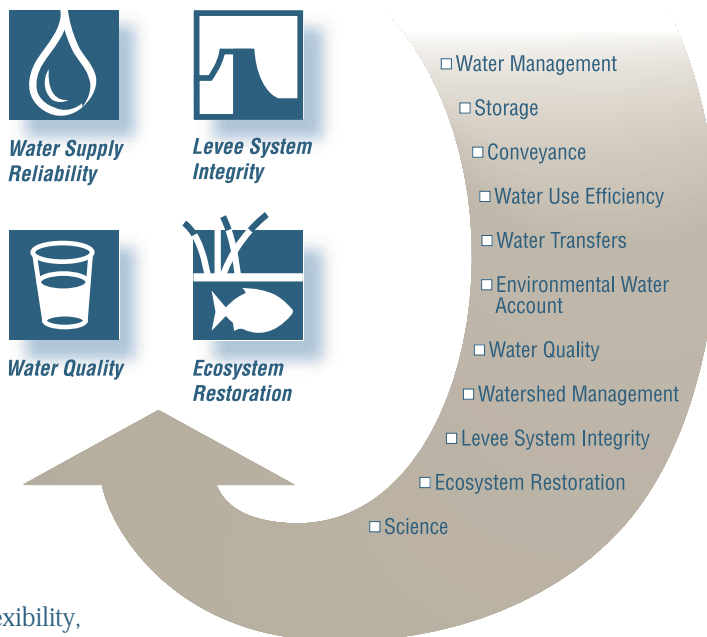
### Water Supply Reliability

- Assist local partners in developing 500,000 to 1 million acre-feet of groundwater storage.
- Pursue planning and other actions at state and federal levels to expand surface storage capacity by up to 3.5 million acre-feet.
- Optimize water conveyance facilities in the Delta and in other locations to maximize operational flexibility, protect water quality and fish species, and increase water supply reliability.
- Invest in local projects that boost water use efficiency through annual water conservation and recycling competitive grants and loan program.
- Streamline the water transfer approval process and develop an effective water transfer market that protects water rights, the environment and local economies.

### Water Quality

- Develop and implement source control and drainage management programs.
- Invest in treatment technology.
- Implement aggressive measures to improve Delta water quality and water quality science.

## Resource Management Objectives



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- Improve or maintain water and sediment quality to support healthy and diverse aquatic ecosystems and to the extent possible, eliminate toxic impacts to aquatic organisms, wildlife and humans.
- Improve dissolved oxygen conditions in the San Joaquin River near the Port of Stockton as part of ecosystem restoration efforts.

## Ecosystem Restoration

- Conduct a grant program to fund local projects in habitat restoration, fish passage, invasive species management and environmental water quality.
- Recover at-risk native species and their habitats.
- Augment stream flow in upstream areas to benefit native fish and invest in fish passage improvements through dam removal and improved fish ladders.
- Provide local and technical assistance to assess watershed conditions and develop plans to address watershed problems.
- Manage the Environmental Water Account to acquire water from willing sellers to protect fish species without reducing water supply reliability.
- Conduct an annual science review to assess effectiveness.
- Develop opportunities for working farms and ranches to contribute to ecosystem restoration objectives.

## Levee System Integrity

- Maintain and strengthen Delta levees, provide protection and enhancement of Delta habitats and drinking water quality.
- Develop best management practices for beneficial reuse of dredged material.
- Improve the Delta Emergency Management Plan and develop a Risk Management Strategy to identify risks to Delta levees, evaluate consequences and recommend actions.

## Science

- Establish the Independent Science Board to integrate world class science into Program implementation.
- Implement comprehensive monitoring and research programs. Develop performance measures to evaluate program accomplishments.

## Oversight and Coordination

- Develop and implement a program tracking system to ensure accountability and assess Program progress.
- Submit an annual report to the Legislature and Congress to assure balanced progress in meeting Program goals.
- Establish a public advisory committee and ensure public involvement in Program implementation.
- Address environmental justice and tribal needs associated with Program implementation.

## 2005 Authority Membership

### State Members

**Michael Chrisman**  
*Resources Agency*

**Alan Lloyd**  
*Environmental Protection Agency*

**A.G. Kawamura**  
*Department of Food and Agriculture*

**Lester Snow**  
*Department of Water Resources*

**Ryan Broddrick**  
*Department of Fish and Game*

**Sandra Shewry**  
*Department of Health Services*

### Federal Members (non-voting)

**Gale Norton**  
*Department of the Interior*

**Wayne Nastri**  
*Environmental Protection Agency*

**Colonel Ronald Light**  
*Army Corps of Engineers*

**Rodney McInnis**  
*National Marine Fisheries Service*

**Steve Thompson**  
*Fish and Wildlife Service*

**Kirk Rodgers**  
*Bureau of Reclamation*

### Public Members

**Alfred Montna**  
*Sacramento Valley*

**Susan Kennedy**  
*San Francisco Bay*

**Patrick Johnston**  
*Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta*

**Vacant**  
*San Joaquin Valley*

**Paula Daniels**  
*Southern California*

**Marc Holmes**  
*Senate Appointee*

**Daniel Wheeler**  
*Assembly Appointee*

### Public Advisory Committee Member

**Gary Hunt, Chair**  
*Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee*

### Ex-Officio Members

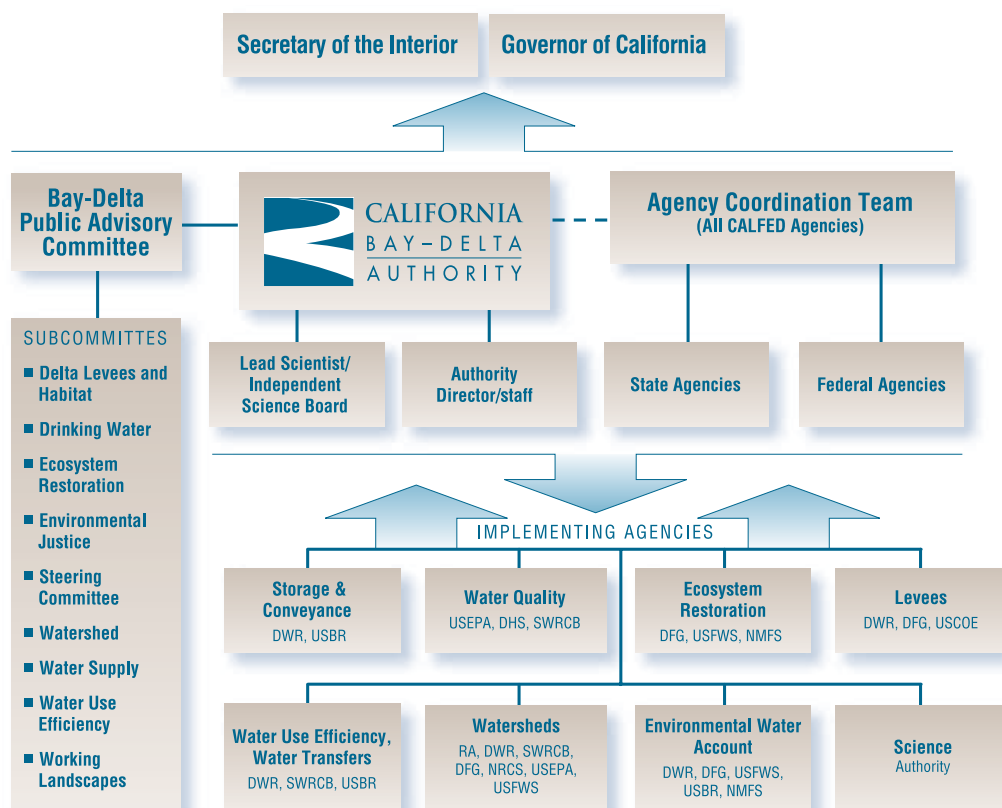
**Senator Sheila Kuehl**  
*Chair, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee*

**Senator Bob Margett**  
*Vice-chair, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee*

**Assembly Member Lois Wolk**  
*Chair, Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee*

**Assembly Member Michael Villines**  
*Vice-chair, Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee*

## Program Structure



## The California Bay-Delta Authority

The California Bay-Delta Authority oversees implementation of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program with 24 other state and federal agencies working to improve the quality and reliability of California's water supplies while restoring the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

The California Bay-Delta Authority Act of 2003 established the Authority as the governance structure and charged it with providing accountability, ensuring balanced implementation, tracking and assessing Program progress, using sound science, assuring public involvement and outreach, and coordinating and integrating related programs.